

**Minutes of the Louisiana Sentencing Commission  
Department of Corrections Headquarters, Building 1  
504 Mayflower, Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
1:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carle Jackson at 1:10 p.m. Honorable Charles Ballay, proxy for Ricky Babin, Chairman, attended by phone.

**Members Present**

Honorable Charles Ballay (proxy for Honorable Ricky Babin, Chairman) (by phone)  
Honorable Charles Ballay (by phone)  
Honorable Louis Daniel  
Honorable Troy Brown (proxy for Honorable Yvonne Dorsey-Colomb)  
Mr. John DiGuilio (proxy for Mr. David Dugas)  
Mr. James Dixon  
Honorable Hans Lilgeberg (proxy for Honorable Greg Guidry) (by phone)  
Ms. Angela Whittaker (proxy for Secretary James LeBlanc)  
Honorable Terry Landry (proxy for Honorable Joseph Lopinto)  
Ms. Cecil Guin  
Honorable Michael McDonald  
Mr. Carle Jackson  
Honorable Helena Moreno  
Honorable Laurie White

**Committee and Advisory Members**

Darryl Campbell, DOC  
Rhett Covington, DOC  
Frank DiFulco, LASC  
Jennifer Eagan, LASC  
Steven Farber, OJJ  
Melanie Gueho, DOC  
Sonia Joseph, DOC  
Genie Powers, DOC/P&P  
Tracy Rathburn, DOC  
Jennifer Watson, LCLE  
Opal West, LCLE

**Guests**

Linda Lala Duscoe, CURE  
Rhonda Nichols, AIM  
Checo Yancy, CAPARC

I. Welcome and Introductions

*Mr. Carle Jackson*

Mr. Carle Jackson welcomed Honorable Troy Brown

II. Approval of Minutes

*Mr. Carle Jackson*

Motion by Mr. John DiGuilio. Seconded by Honorable Louis Daniel. No objections

III. Cruelty to Animals

Honorable Troy Brown requested the Commission consider increasing maximum penalty from ten years for cruelty to animals. Judges should be allowed greater discretion in these cases. Mr. John DiGiulio noted that his daughter is chair of the animal section of the state bar and could be of some assistance. .

IV. Justice Reinvestment Initiative

*Angela Whittaker*

Grant Implementation

Eight grant strategies were identified:

1. Conducted a training needs assessment and training plan for use of Administrative Sanctions.
2. Conducted training events for judges and P&P on the use of evidence based practices
3. Conducted an impact study that projected the impact of mandatory/minimum sentencing waivers
4. Developed and implemented a training plan on the use of mandatory/minimum
5. Developing standards for the provision of home incarceration and electronic monitoring

6. Hired JRI Coordinator to assist in grant work
7. Design and Implementation of a Recidivism Reduction and Prisoner Reentry Model
8. Developed a sustainability plan for the implementation and use of Thinking for a Change as an EBP in our prisons.

Grant Award Money: DPS&C:	199,811.00
LDAA:	5,500.00
LACDL:	2,500.00
Judicial College:	<u>91,652.50</u>
	<b>\$299,463.50</b>

JRI collected feedback from 107 participants. The first statewide training was in April. The current projection of a slightly declining prison population is retained and not lowered at this time. Judges, Defense Attorneys and Prosecutors all participated in the training development. DOC Contracted with ACA to develop standards for providers. Draft of HI Standards were received from ACA and are being reviewed for comments. Discussed DOC's role in prison population, and expected outcomes. JRI is finalizing a strategy document with best practices as recognized by National Institute of Correction.

#### IV. Reports of Committees

*Mr. Carle Jackson*

##### A. Release Mechanisms and Re-Entry Committee

###### 1. Release Mechanisms - *Ms. Rita Thomas.*

- a. Education-Beyond non state prisons, eight local jails and detention centers report adult education. Six local jails and detention centers begun to insertion to begin reporting adult ed students doc in coming months.
- b. Substance abuse group expected revise report and map of resources at next meeting
- c. Workforce development submitted collateral consequences of conviction. Substance abuse reported to not legally subsidize, but it does happen. This will go to Commission for review.
- d. Social Support submitted reports for "Mentoring Programs and Best Practices" and "Peer Support Groups Best Practices and Recommendations"

###### 2. Re-entry - *Jennifer Eagan*

Judges reviewed RS 1354.01 and amended to allow courts discretion in assessing fees to offenders for assessments and rehabilitation services. Judicial council does not need to review court costs. Met submission deadline.

##### B. Research and Technology

*Mr. Frank DiFulco*

Since LA RS 13:753 became effective, 64/64 District Courts reported disposition & sentencing information, compared to 63/64 for 2013. CMIS successfully posted disposition data from 61/64 district courts to NICS (National Instant Check system). The records contained the required personal identifiers of name, race, sex and DOB for the defendant & allowed posting to NICS. Because of an invalid SID, no matching date of arrest in CCH (computerized criminal history) or duplicate record, sometimes these records do not end up on the rap sheet.

##### C. Juvenile Justice Committee

*Mr. Steven Farber*

No report

#### V. Planning 2015 Term: Issues for consideration

- A. New Committee Structure and additional issues. No recommendations.
- B. Issues for Front End Committee. No recommendations.

VI. Other Business

Mr. John DiGuilio suggested Marijuana reform should be revisited. This Saturday January 17, 2015 A resolution is going before the House of Delegates for the Bar Association to send a study marijuana sentencing reform by the Law Institute. Also the Bar association will recommend for the Law Institute to study of the funding of criminal justice system. Ex: Traffic fines

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Louisiana Sentencing Commission will be March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

VIII. Adjourn Honorable Laurie White motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Honorable Mike Cazes. No objections. The meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.